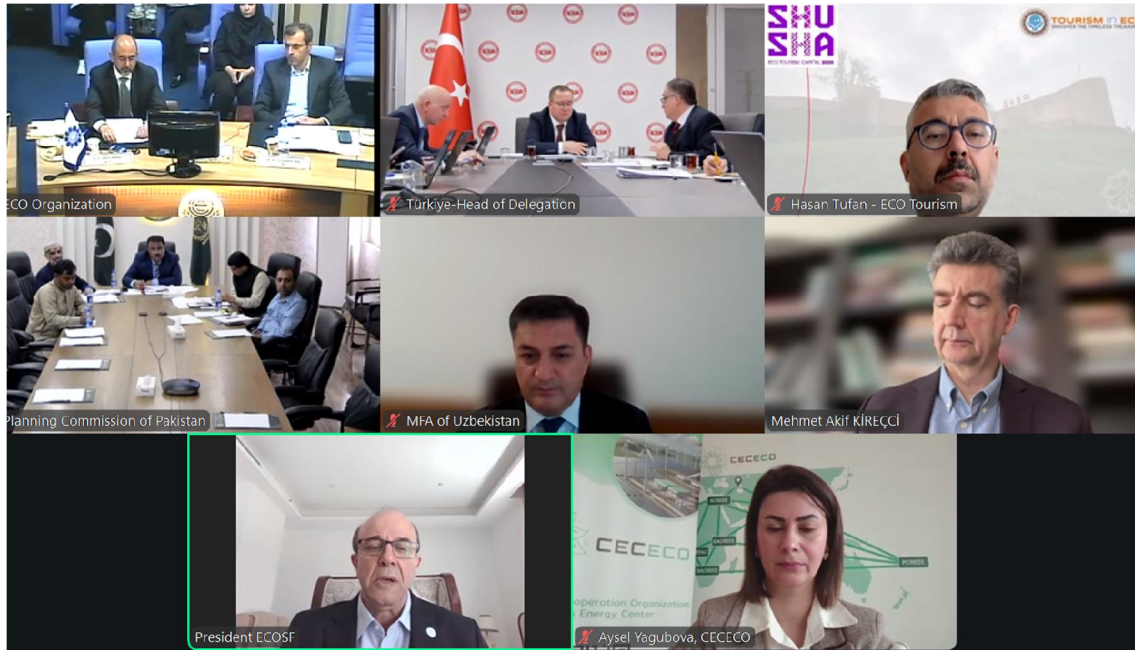


ECOSF NEWSLETTER



ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) participated in the 36th Meeting of the ECO Regional Planning Council (RPC)



May 17, 2026 – The 36th Meeting of the ECO Regional Planning Council (RPC) was held at the ECO Secretariat in Tehran in a hybrid format, bringing together delegations from member states, observers, and representatives of specialized agencies and affiliated bodies. ECO Secretary General Dr. Asad M. Khan emphasized the RPC's role as a key institutional mechanism for guiding strategy, reviewing progress, and shaping future direction, while also highlighting major achievements and initiatives, including the vision document "Strategic Goals of Economic Cooperation – 2035" and ongoing reform processes

The ECO Science Foundation was represented by its President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and team members. During the plenary session, the member states and agency representatives shared their statements. The meeting also observed a moment of silence in solidarity with Iran and to honor the victims of recent hardships.

In his statement, Prof. Tayebi highlighted the critical importance of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for sustainable development and economic growth in the ECO region, reaffirming ECOSF's commitment to advancing this agenda through partnerships. Despite financial constraints, ECOSF continued its efforts in 2025 through various capacity-building activities and called on member countries for stronger technical and financial support. During the RPC meeting, ECOSF also contributed to the International Relations Committee and deliberated on important matters to the ECOSF.

ECOSF Co-organizes 2nd China–Pakistan Symposium on Early Warning for Hydrological and Geological Disasters in partnership with CPJRC

Islamabad, May 19, 2026: The 2nd China–Pakistan Symposium on “Early Warning for Hydrological and Geological Disasters” was held on May 18–19, 2026 at the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Islamabad bringing together researchers, policymakers, disaster management professionals, diplomats, and technical experts from Pakistan, China, and other countries.



The symposium was jointly organized by the China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC), ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), UNESCO Chair for Mountain Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), and Quaid-i-Azam University.

The event focused on strengthening regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate resilience, with particular attention to hydrological and geological hazard monitoring, early warning systems, data-sharing mechanisms, and institutional preparedness against climate-induced disasters, including floods, landslides, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), debris flows, and related mountain hazards.



During the inaugural session, a booklet based on globally adopted best practices and procedures for disaster management and risk reduction was launched. Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, attended the session as the chief guest. In his address, he highlighted the increasing threats posed by climate change, particularly its growing impact on vulnerable communities, critical infrastructure, and national development priorities. He also appreciated the partnership with Chinese institutions for strengthening the capacity of Pakistani institutions in disaster preparedness and early warning.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman NDMA, Lt General Inam Haider Malik, emphasized that NDMA is shifting its focus from post-disaster response to proactive preparedness through modern early warning systems, risk-informed planning, and anticipatory action.



The symposium provided an important platform for technical dialogue on early warning technologies and integrated risk assessment on hydrological and geological hazards. On behalf of ECOSF, President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager – Energy & Climate, participated in the inaugural session.

President ECOSF Highlights Regional Science Cooperation at Panel Discussion and Closing Ceremony of 2nd China-Pakistan Symposium



Islamabad, May 19, 2026: Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF participated as an invited panelist in the Panel Discussion and Closing Ceremony of the 2nd China-Pakistan Symposium on Early Warning for Hydrological and Geological Disasters, held at the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Islamabad.

The panel discussion was held under the theme “**Climate Change and Hydrological-Geological Hazard Warning in China and Pakistan: Experiences, Challenges, and Joint Responses.**” The session brought together senior representatives of NDMA, academia, researchers from both Pakistan and China to deliberate on the growing risks of climate-induced hydrological and geological hazards and the need for stronger joint responses.



Speaking during the panel discussion, Prof. Tayebi emphasized that the China-Pakistan experience in early warning is significant not only for its scientific and technical value, but also as a successful model of institutional cooperation. He highlighted the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) as an example of how scientific cooperation can move beyond formal agreements and generate practical outcomes in research, capacity building, and disaster-risk preparedness.



Prof. Tayebi noted that many ECO Member Countries face common climate-related and geological hazards. He underscored the need to leverage the CPJRC platform and gradually expand its benefits to the wider ECO region by adapting the China-Pakistan cooperation model to different regional geographies, including mountain areas, river basins, drylands, seismic zones, and vulnerable transport corridors.

During the closing ceremony, Prof. Tayebi congratulated all the partner organizations for successfully organizing a highly relevant and timely symposium. Prof. Tayebi concluded that resilience to climate change is directly linked to economic resilience and stability.



ECOSF Presents Technical Perspective on Risk-Informed Green Transport Corridors at 2nd China-Pakistan Symposium

Islamabad, May 19, 2026: ECOSF contributed to the technical parallel session during the 2nd China-Pakistan Symposium on Early Warning for Hydrological and Geological Disasters held at NDMA, Islamabad. Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager – Energy & Climate at the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), delivered a technical presentation titled “Risk-Informed Green Transport Corridors for a Climate-Resilient ECO Region,” he emphasized the ECO region’s strategic importance as a bridge linking Asia, Europe, Central Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean. He noted, however, that these transport corridors pass through highly climate-vulnerable and hazard-prone areas, where threats such as glacial lake outburst floods, landslides, earthquakes, flash floods, extreme heat, drought, coastal risks, and Caspian Sea level changes can disrupt infrastructure and regional trade.



Mr. Raza stressed that green transport corridors must also be risk-informed, arguing that decarbonization and climate adaptation should go hand in hand to ensure resilient connectivity. He presented the idea of “Green Logistics + Risk Intelligence = Resilient Connectivity” as a framework for future corridor planning in the ECO region. This means that decarbonized transport systems, when guided by risk mapping and early warning, enable more reliable, adaptive, and disruption-resilient connectivity. Mr. Raza called for stronger regional cooperation on multi-hazard early warning systems, green logistics, renewable-powered transport nodes, and climate-resilient infrastructure investment to support sustainable and resilient connectivity across the ECO region.

CPJRC Delegation Visits ECOSF to Discuss Strengthened Scientific Collaboration

Islamabad, May 19, 2026: A high-level delegation from the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) visited the ECO Science Foundation to discuss avenues for strengthening scientific cooperation, regional capacity building, and joint initiatives in areas of mutual interest. The delegation was led by Prof. Kang Shichang, Director General of the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS); accompanied by Prof. Su Lijun, Deputy Director General of CPJRC; and Prof. Hong Tianhua, Executive Director of CPJRC.

The delegation met with Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director of ECOSF. Prof. Tayebi appreciated the important role of CPJRC in promoting China-Pakistan scientific cooperation and highlighted the value of sustained institutional partnerships. He noted that such cooperation could also serve as a useful model for broader engagement with ECO Member Countries, many of which face similar climate-related and geological hazards.



Prof. Kang Shichang discussed the potential for future collaboration through joint research, expert exchanges, technical training programs, knowledge-sharing activities, and regional capacity-building initiatives. Emphasis was placed on leveraging CPJRC's scientific expertise and ECOSF's regional platform to promote science-based resilience and strengthen cooperation across the ECO region. Both sides also expressed their commitment to extending continuous support for the next International Conference on Climate Change and Disaster Risks, scheduled to take place in Uzbekistan.

President ECOSF held a meeting with the high-level officials of Ministry of Science, Research & Technology (MSRT)

Tehran, May 23, 2026 - President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi visited the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) in Tehran and held a meeting with Prof. Ehsan Ghaboul, the newly appointed Head of the International Scientific Cooperation Center, MSRT. Prof. Tayebi extended warm congratulations to Dr. Ghaboul on assuming his new position and briefed him on the Foundation's mandate, ongoing programs, and key activities carried out in collaboration with Iranian institutions during 2024, 2025, and 2026.

The meeting also discussed avenues for strengthening cooperation between MSRT and ECOSF, particularly through enhanced engagement with Iran's academia, research bodies, and scientific institutions. Matters related to Iran's mandatory budget contribution for 2026, and outstanding arrears were also discussed. ECOSF invited MSRT to participate in the 6th ECOSF Board of Trustees Meeting to be held in Pakistan, which was graciously accepted by Dr. Ghaboul.



Dr. Ghaboul appreciated ECOSF's regional scientific activities and expressed MSRT's interest in further deepening collaboration with the Foundation. Prof. Mosayeb Pahlavani, Advisor to the Deputy Minister for Technology and Innovation and focal point to ECOSF, also attended the meeting.

ECOSF Explores STI Collaboration with MSRT and WASTP

Tehran, May 23, 2026 - During his visit to the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), met with Prof. Towhid Firouzan, Director General for Logistics at the Deputy Ministry for Technology and Innovation, and Prof. Hassan Heidari, Chairman of the Board of the West Azerbaijan Science and Technology Park (WASTP). Prof. Mosayeb Pahlavani, Advisor to the Deputy Minister for Technology and Innovation and focal point to ECOSF accompanied the President of ECOSF.



Prof. Firouzan reaffirmed MSRT's support for ECOSF's activities in promoting Science, Technology and Innovation across the ECO region. Prof. Heidari introduced WASTP and highlighted its focus on high-tech products, export potential, and support for small and medium-sized technology and knowledge-based enterprises. Prof. Tayebi appreciated MSRT's continued support and emphasized concrete collaboration among ECOSF, WASTP, and MSRT to advance STI cooperation in the ECO region.

ECOSF and ISC Discuss Implementation of MoU to Advance Scientific Collaboration

Shiraz, May 26, 2026 - Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF visited the Islamic World Science and Technology Monitoring and Citation Institute (ISC) in Shiraz, Iran, with the aim of advancing the implementation of the signed MoU between ECOSF and ISC. During the visit, Prof. Tayebi toured different sections of ISC, including its library, monitoring and citation offices, museum, and related facilities. Prof. Tayebi presented the ECOSF at a meeting with the ISC officials.

Prof. Tayebi also held a meeting with Prof. Mohammad Mehdi Alavian Mehr, Rector of ISC, Prof. Ali Akbar Safavi, Head of the ISC Digital Humanities Working Group, and senior officials of ISC. Prof. Alavian Mehr warmly welcomed the President ECOSF and briefed him on ISC's role as a leading scholarly research data institution in the Islamic world, focused on compiling, analyzing, and sharing multidisciplinary scientific information, as well as assessing the research performance of scientists, universities, institutions, and journals.





Prof. Tayebi briefed the participants on ECOSF’s mandate to promote Science, Technology and Innovation for sustainable development through human resource development, institutional capacity building, research collaboration, and exchange of S&T information. He also highlighted ECOSF’s priority areas, including climate and energy, agriculture and water, ICT, health and biotechnology, and STI ecosystem development, along with its key capacity-building programs such as Inquiry-Based STEM Education, scientific and technical advisory services, and Belt and Road Science Education initiatives.

During the meeting, it was decided that ICELET 2026 will be rescheduled at an appropriate time. In addition, the two sides agreed to transform the provisions of the signed MoU into a joint action plan aimed at advancing regional scientific collaboration.

ECOSF Explores Academic Cooperation with Shiraz University

Shiraz, May 26, 2026 - Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF accompanied by Prof. Ali Akbar Safavi, Faculty Member of Shiraz University and Chair of the ICELET-2026 Conference, visited Shiraz University and met with senior university officials in Shiraz, Iran.

During the meeting, Prof. Tayebi highlighted ECOSF’s role in promoting research, teaching, and scientific exchanges among academic institutions and scientific centers across the ECO Member Countries. The discussions also focused on opportunities for strengthening regional scientific collaboration, building joint research networks, and promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience among academics and researchers, particularly in view of the shared cultural, historical, and scientific linkages among ECO Member Countries and Shiraz University’s interest in expanding international cooperation with neighboring countries.



ECOSF and CISSC Discuss Strengthening STI Cooperation in the ECO Region

Tehran, May 31, 2026 - Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, visited the Center for International Scientific Studies and Collaboration (CISSC) in Tehran and met with Dr. Omid Rezaeifar, Director CISSC. In this meeting, Dr. Rezaeifar welcomed warmly Prof. Tayebi and briefed him on the crucial role of CISSC in regional cooperation in promoting STI, especially in the ECO region. Prof. Tayebi explained various ECOSF activities and collaborations pertaining to Iran in recent three years. He expressed his profound gratitude to Dr. Rezaeifar and the CISSC team for making all the necessary procedures and helping to transfer Iran's membership to the ECOSF from 2023 to 2025. In this meeting, various areas of cooperation were discussed, including the implementation of joint research projects, the holding of international scientific conferences and scientific meetings, the promotion of STI activities, technical advisory, and the utilization of joint publication.



President ECOSF visited Mustafa^(pbuh) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) on May 31, 2026, Tehran.

A joint official meeting was held at the Mustafa^(pbuh) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) in Tehran on May 31, 2026, to explore strategic cooperation between MSTF and the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF). The meeting was attended by Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF; Dr. Ali Emrani, Executive Director MSTF; Dr. Mahdi Amini, Director, International Cooperation Department, MSTF; and Dr. Amir Mohammad Abhari, Executive, International Cooperation Department, MSTF.

The discussions focused on developing joint initiatives in science diplomacy, STEM education, youth engagement, regional capacity-building, and multilateral scientific collaboration across ECO Member States. The participants also reviewed opportunities for structured institutional cooperation, including the proposed ECO-STEP initiative, science outreach and STEM capacity-building programs, and expanded international educational partnerships involving ECO Member States and strategic external partners.



ECOSF President Attends COMSTech Quantum Computing Workshop as the Guest of Honor

Islamabad, May 11, 2026 – The President of ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, participated as a Guest of Honor in the five-day International Training Workshop on “Quantum Computing and Quantum Information: Advancing the OIC Quantum Frontiers” at the COMSTech Secretariat.” The workshop was jointly organized by the OIC-COMSTech Center for Training and Research on AI and Emerging Technologies and the COMSTech–Huawei ICT Academy to promote quantum literacy, technical capacity building, and scientific collaboration across OIC member states. Mr. Khalil Raza, Programs Manager ECOSF also attended the ceremony.

Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General COMSTech, in his opening remarks welcomed Prof. Tayebi as the guest of honor. Then, he said that the world stands at the threshold of a new scientific transformation driven by quantum science. He noted that quantum computing, communication, and sensing will revolutionize medicine, AI, cybersecurity, advanced materials, and energy, and stressed that developing countries must strengthen human capital, research institutions, and scientific cooperation. He reaffirmed COMSTech’s commitment to capacity building in AI, cybersecurity, and quantum sciences, and highlighted progress toward an OIC-wide AI Vision and specialized training centers.



Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi described quantum technologies as one of the defining scientific frontiers of the coming decades. He emphasized the importance of preparing young researchers, universities, and scientific institutions in developing countries to actively participate in emerging technological transformations. He underlined the need for regional cooperation, scientific networks, visiting fellowships, collaborative research opportunities, and knowledge-sharing platforms to strengthen scientific readiness in OIC and ECO member states. He added that We need access to online platforms, cloud-based quantum tools, training programs, and collaborative research opportunities. This is where organizations like COMSTech and ECOSF have a significant role to play.

Prof. Dr. Farhan Saif, Consultant (Basic Sciences) at COMSTech, introduced the workshop objectives, explaining that the program provides foundational understanding, practical exposure, and collaborative learning in quantum computing and quantum information.

Mr. Arslan Ahmed Khan, Senior Solutions Manager, highlighted Huawei Technologies’ perspective on the expanding role of cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and digital transformation in scientific and industrial development, noting that emerging digital technologies are rapidly reshaping governments, industries, and research ecosystems worldwide.



President ECOSF Participated in the Conference on the Straits of Hormuz: Legal and Economic Challenges, Hosted by University of Tehran

May 13, 2026 – Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, participated virtually in the conference on “The Straits of Hormuz Legal and Economic Challenges,” organized by the Caspian International Maritime Law Center (CIMLAC) at the Faculty of Governance, University of Tehran.

Global Economic Effects of the Strait Hormuz Closure

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi
President ECOSF
Professor of International Economics



www.ecosf.org

Caspian International Maritime Law Center (CIMLAC)
 Faculty of Governance – University of Tehran

The Strait of Hormuz
 Legal and Economic Challenges

In his presentation, Prof. Tayebi explained that a potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz could trigger cascading global economic consequences described as a “tsunami effect” on energy flows and supply chains. As a route carrying nearly 20% of the world’s oil, even the threat of disruption creates immediate psychological and financial reactions in global markets, raising oil prices, insurance premiums, and shipping costs, while setting off a domino effect across international trade and financial systems. He further noted that this vulnerability exposes global supply chain fragility, disrupts industries worldwide, weakens import-dependent economies, and forces central banks into difficult policy trade-offs, with trade growth projections for April 2026 falling to 1.5%–2.5% and potential losses reaching \$20 billion per day.

President ECOSF added that the broader impact of such disruption extends to households and national economies, as rising fuel and energy costs increase inflationary pressure and deepen macroeconomic stress in vulnerable countries, including Iran, where inflation and unemployment have pushed the Misery Index to record levels. The crisis highlights the structural weakness of a global system heavily dependent on a single energy chokepoint, while also accelerating long-term transformation as countries pursue energy diversification, strengthen supply chain resilience, and invest in the energy transition.

Looking ahead, he mentioned, the future points toward a gradual shift to more decentralized, resilient, and secure energy and trade systems, as nations increasingly prioritize strategic autonomy and reduce dependence on vulnerable maritime routes.

Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

International Virtual Professional Development Workshop for High-School Teachers



LAAAMP (Lightsources for Africa, The Americas, Asia, Middle East and Pacific) and Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste are jointly organizing an international virtual professional development workshop for high-school teachers from 15–19 June 2026.

The workshop is designed for teachers of Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, and General Science, and will be conducted entirely in English. Its aim is to strengthen the connection between school science curricula and inquiry-based learning by introducing educators to synchrotron research and large-scale scientific infrastructures.

Using Elettra as a real-world example, the program will demonstrate how advanced research facilities operate and how fundamental scientific principles taught in classrooms are applied in cutting-edge experiments.

Read mor: <https://ecosf.org/elettra-teachers-workshop/>